

ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropology studies human diversity – including social organization, material & resource use, genetics, bones, cultures, thoughts, languages, behaviors, and more - across space and time. It encompasses several “subfields” of study which span the humanities AND natural sciences!

Archaeology

**Cultural
Anthropology**

**Biological
Anthropology**

**Medical
Anthropology**

**Forensic
Anthropology**



ANTHROPOLOGY Resources & Specialties at MSU

The next five slides will tell you a little bit more about some of our areas of focus, course themes, and opportunities for Anthropology majors and minors.

As an anthropology major or minor, you can concentrate your studies within one of the “subfields”, or you can take a variety of courses across all of them.

Our research methods courses all qualify for the Experiential Learning requirement for the College of Social Science.



Archaeology

Archaeology is the study of the material remains of human activities and societies – from early human ancestors to present-day urban environments. It helps us understand the diversity of human life, social organization, and culture over great spans of time.

Opportunities / Resources at MSU

- MSU Campus Archaeology Program
- MSU Campus Archaeology Field School (summers)
- MSU Museum
- Bioarchaeology Lab
- Digital Heritage



Biological Anthropology

Biological Anthropology (also called “Physical Anthropology”) includes the study of evolution and human biological variation. This can include human anatomy, human origins, genetics, and human adaptability to various environments.

Courses which overlap with Natural Science

- ANP 206 Introduction to Physical Anthropology
- ANP 440 Hominid Fossils
- ANP 441 Osteology and Forensic Anthropology
- ANP 443 Human Adaptability



Cultural Anthropology

Cultural anthropology studies human social & cultural diversity and specificity. Research is done using ethnography – a person-centered, interactive method of research. It helps us understand similarities and differences in culture, language, power, behavior, politics & economics, gender, thought, and more.

Career & Life Skills

- Development of outstanding listening skills
- Cross-cultural fluency; deeper knowledge of human diversity
- Excellent preparation for: health careers, public and international relations, human resources, social services, museums, etc.



Forensic Anthropology

Forensic Anthropologists analyze human bones and their context to determine how and when a person died, and to learn about the person's sex, diet, ancestry, injuries, and states of health/disease.

Career Paths & MSU Opportunities

- MSU Forensic Anthropology Lab – opportunities for credit
- Careers with law enforcement on criminal cases
- Forensic Pathologist / Medical Examiner
- MSU Study Abroad Program (Summer) in England
 - *Forensic Anthropology and Human Identification* -



Medical Anthropology

Medical Anthropology uses anthropological theory and methods to study a range of health-, healing-, and body-related practices (dominant and alternative forms of medicine, uses of the body, religious ritual, etc.). It seeks to understand the economic, cultural, linguistic, environmental, and political contexts of health and healing.

Career Preparation

- Strengthens your premedical / pre-health portfolio
- Ideal for those interested in health & science professions, or for those who wish to understand health, illness, and healing in cultural context

